

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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FOLL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BUJUMBURA GENEVA BRUSSELS FROM
KIGALI 14 JUN 73 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KIGALI 0373

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SREF, RW, BY

SUBJ: REFUGEE SITUATION IN RWANDA

REF: KIGALI 0348, 0332, 0326 AND 0310

1. IN MIDST PERSISTENT RUMORS AND FEARS THAT BURUNDI
REFUGEES PLANNING ANOTHER ATTACK ON THEIR HOMELAND,
FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS CAN BE MADE ABOUT REFUGEE
SITUATION IN RWANDA.

2. ACCORDING TO WELL INFORMED SOURCES, REFUGEE
LEADERS FEEL INCURSIONS LAST MONTH WERE SUCCESS IN THAT
THEY DEMONSTRATED REFUGEE CAPABILITY TO INFLICT DAMAGE
ON TUTSI TROOPS AND FORCED TUTSI TROOPS AWAY FROM
BUJUMBURA TO FRONTIER AREAS. REFUGEE LEADERS
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APPARENTLY UNMOVED BY EFFECT OF ATTACKS ON FELLOW COUNTRYMEN, INTERPRETING CURRENT TUTSI REPRISALS NOT AS OBSTACLE TO FURTHER ATTACKS BUT AS MOTIVATION AND JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUING BATTLE AGAINST BURUNDI REGIME.

3. SOME REFUGEES, NOTABLY THOSE WITH FAMILIES, HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF BATTLE AND WANT TO SETTLE ON LAND PREPARED FOR THEM IN LILIMA AREA BY UNHCR.

4. REFUGEES CONTINUE TO COME TO LILIMA CAMP, APPROX. 500 PER WEEK FROM RUZIZI VALLEY VIA CYANGUGU AND APPROX 30 A WEEK FROM MUYINGA PROVINCE. CAMP POPULATION OF OVER 8000 NOW FAR EXCEEDS CAPACITY OF AREA TO SUPPORT IT.

5. PROGRAM TO RESETTLE REFUGEES IN MUTARA AREA, NORTH RWANDA, RUNNING INTO BASIC REALITIES OF NO WOOD, NO SHELTER, QUESTIONABLE WATER SUPPLY, ETC. NOT TO MENTION HIGH COSTS. LICROSS REP BELIEVES FIVE WEEKS PREPARATION NEEDED BEFORE MOVEMENT OF ANY LARGE NUMBERS CAN BE AFFECTED BUT INITIAL GRUP MAY BE MOVED JUNE 16. LICROSS, UNHCR AND RWANDAN AUTHORITIES MEETING DAILY IN EFFORT TO WORK OUT DETAILS.

6. DESPITE INFLAMMATORY RADIO ATTACKS ON BURUNDI, RWANDAN AUTHORITIES SEEM DETERMINED TO DEFUSE SITUATION BY MOVING REFUGEES. GOR SEEMS TO GIVE SOME CREDENCE TO RUMORS THAT BURUNDI NOW ARMING TUTSI REFUGEES FOR POSSIBLE ATTACK ON RWANDA. RWANDAN MINISTER OF NATIONAL GUARD PRESSING UNHCR REP FOR IMMEDIATE MOVEMENT OF POTENTIAL TROUBLE MAKERS FROM LILIMA TO MUTARA (SEPTEL). ACCORDING UNHCR AND LICROSS REPS, GOR WORKING WITH UNUSUAL SPEED TO REPAIR ROAD TO MUTARA SITE AND TO ESTABLISH FIRST SHELTERS.
CORRIGAN

UNQUOTE ROGERS

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